

## **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A data processing system for executing a plurality of instructions having a prescribed program order comprises a register file, a reorder buffer, and a plurality of functional units. The register file includes a plurality of registers to store data. The reorder buffer includes N buffer locations of which M buffer locations are bypassable and N-M buffer locations are non-bypassable, wherein N and M are integers and  $N > M$ . Each functional unit is capable of executing instructions regardless of the prescribed program order. The reorder buffer temporarily stores data corresponding to the plurality of instructions. When data of one of the plurality of instructions to be executed by a corresponding one of the plurality of functions units is temporarily stored in one of the M bypassable buffer locations, the reorder buffer transfers the data in one of the bypassable M buffer locations to the corresponding one of the functional units in order to execute the instruction. The register file also stores data corresponding to retired ones of the plurality of instructions.

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
[www.finnegan.com](http://www.finnegan.com)